

NEWS RELEASE

*OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS*

*EDWARD E. McNALLY
UNITED STATES ATTORNEY*

Nine Executive Drive, Fairview Heights, Illinois 62208, Telephone (618) 628-3700

For Immediate Release

January 18, 2006

LOCAL BUSINESSMAN SENTENCED FOR FAILURE TO FILE FEDERAL INCOME TAX RETURNS

Edward McNally, United States Attorney for the Southern District of Illinois, announced today that **DANNY G. SIERRAS**, age 59 of O'Fallon, Illinois, was sentenced on January 18 for his convictions of 4 counts of Failure to File Federal Income Tax Returns for the tax years of 1999, 2000, 2001, and 2002. **SIERRAS** was sentenced to serve six (6) months imprisonment, followed by six (6) months home detentions, one (1) year supervised release, and was ordered to pay a fine of \$5,000. **SIERRAS** was additionally ordered to cooperate with the Internal Revenue Service in the assessment and collection of federal income taxes due and to file all federal income tax returns that are due. **SIERRAS** operated a business and received his primary income from a business called Hwang Enterprises, dba Dragon Palace Restaurant in O'Fallon, Illinois.

The successful prosecution is the result of an investigation conducted by the Internal Revenue Service/Criminal Investigations. The prosecution was handled by Norman R. Smith, Assistant U.S. Attorney.

If you suspect or know of an individual or company that is not complying with the tax laws, report this activity. Reports of suspected tax fraud can be made by phone, mail or your local IRS walk-in office. You can contact the IRS toll free at 1-800-829-0433. Although you are not required to identify yourself, it is helpful to do so. Your identity can be kept confidential. You may also be entitled to a reward.